WASHINGTON, D.C. – Rep. Spencer Bachus joined President Bush today in announcing that Wanda Burns, William Helf, and Kathryn Chandler, teachers at Mountain Brook, Homewood, and Trace Crossings High Schools, have been awarded a 2002 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

"I am very proud to announce that educators from the 6th District of Alabama have won this very prestigious award," said Congressman Bachus.

"Science and technology are a cornerstone of our nation's success and the road to that success begins with our teachers.

We are extremely fortunate to have these folks shaping and inspiring the future scientists and leaders in our community and beyond. I hope their hard work will serve as a model for us all."

The Presidential Award program, administered by the National Science Foundation (NSF), bestows the nation's highest honor for mathematics and science teachers for kindergarten through grade 12. President Ronald Reagan established the Awards in 1983, and since that time, more than 3,000 teachers have been selected as Presidential Awardees.

Each Awardee receives a \$7,500 grant to their school and a trip to Washington, D.C., to attend the awards ceremony on Thursday, March 20 and participate in the award week activities.